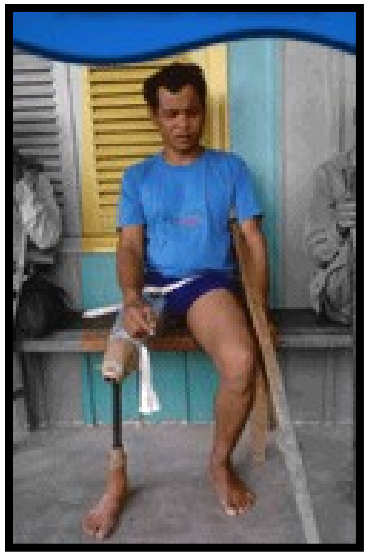
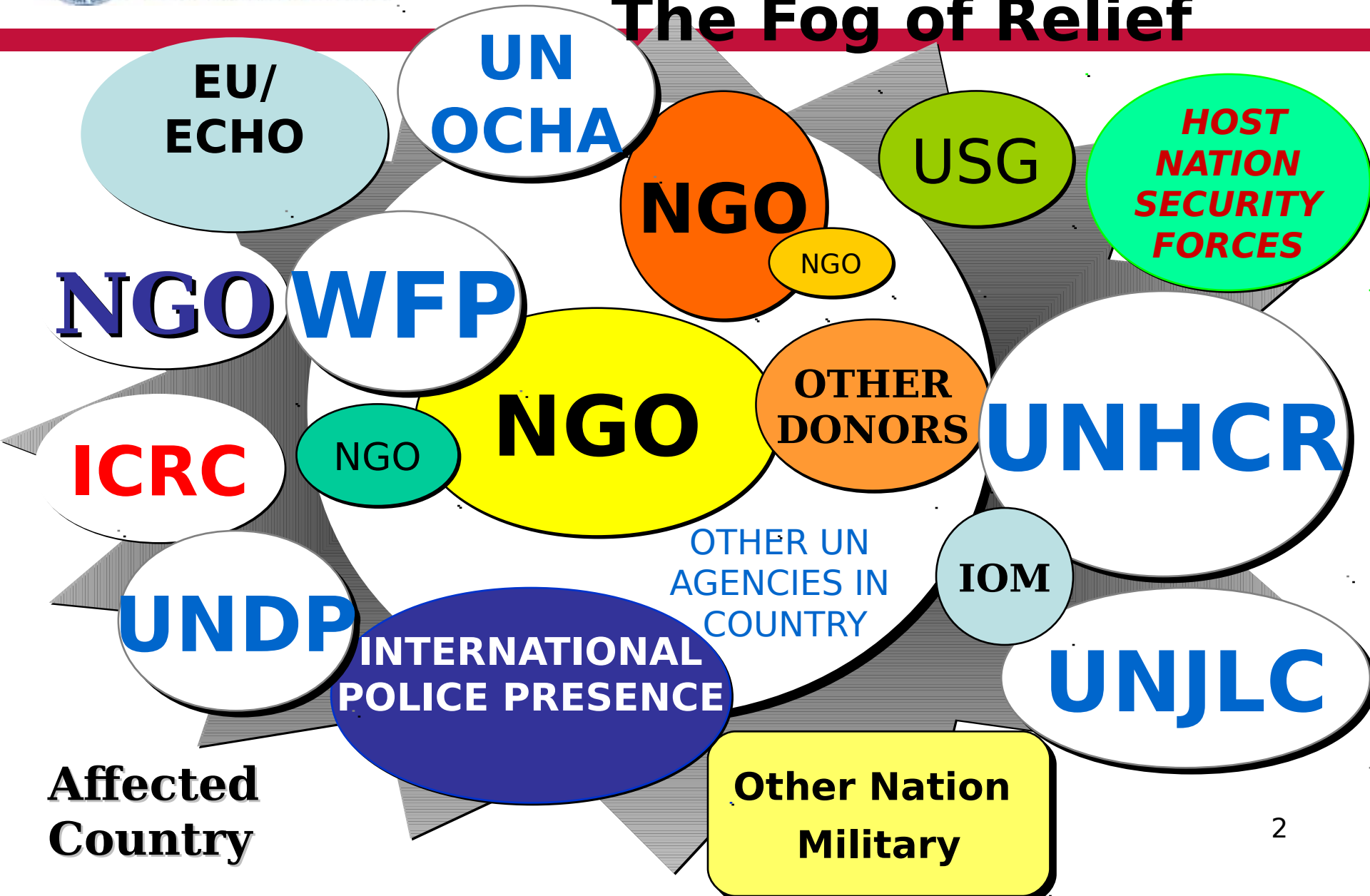
Overview of USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)



A Challenging Environment: The Fog of Relief

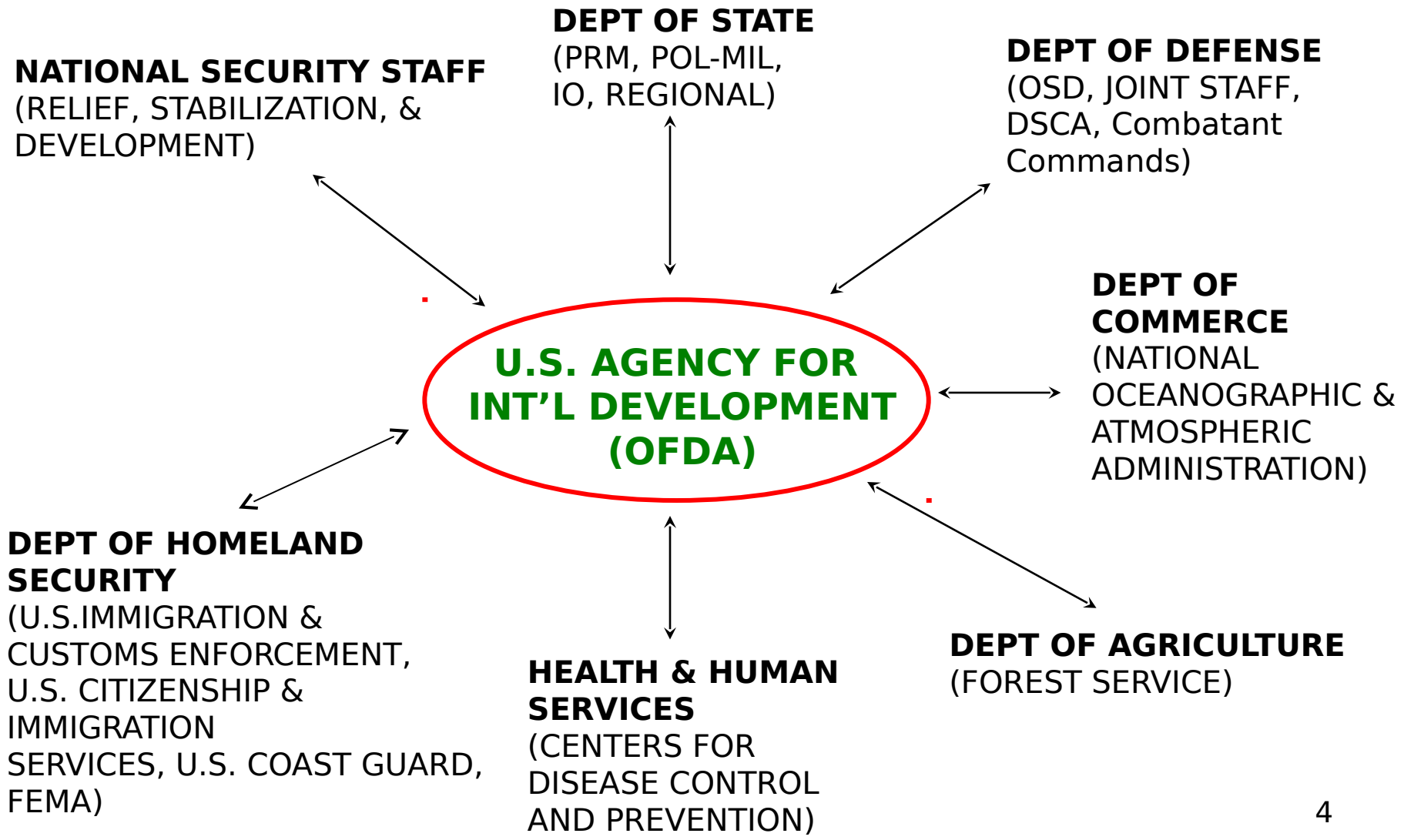


OFDA's Role in a Disaster Response

- **OFDA is the lead US Government agency for organizing and managing foreign disaster assistance**
  - **Develops overall response strateg**
  - **Provides on-scene management in support of U.S. Ambassador**
  - **Provides USG funding to *implementing partners***
  - **Collects and analyzes information on the response**
  - **Primary reporting source for the total USG response**

- **When necessary, OFDA requests support from other US Government agencies (including DOD) during a disaster**

US Government Interagency Stakeholders


DEPT OF STATE
(PRM, POL-MIL, IO, REGIONAL)
NATIONAL SECURITY STAFF
(RELIEF, STABILIZATION, & DEVELOPMENT)
DEPT OF DEFENSE
(OSD, JOINT STAFF, DSCA, Combatant Commands)
U.S. AGENCY FOR INT'L DEVELOPMENT (OFDA)
DEPT OF COMMERCE
(NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION)
DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
(U.S.IMMIGRATION & CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT, U.S. CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION SERVICES, U.S. COAST GUARD, FEMA)
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
(CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION)
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE
(FOREST SERVICE)

4

OFDA's Mandate

1) **Save Lives**

2) **Alleviate Human Suffering**

3) **Reduce the Economic and Social Impact of Disasters**

OFDA's Response Criteria

1. Host country must ask for, or be willing to accept, USG assistance.
2. The disaster is of such magnitude that it is beyond the host country's ability to respond adequately

Once these criteria are met,
the U.S. Ambassador ma
declare that a disaster

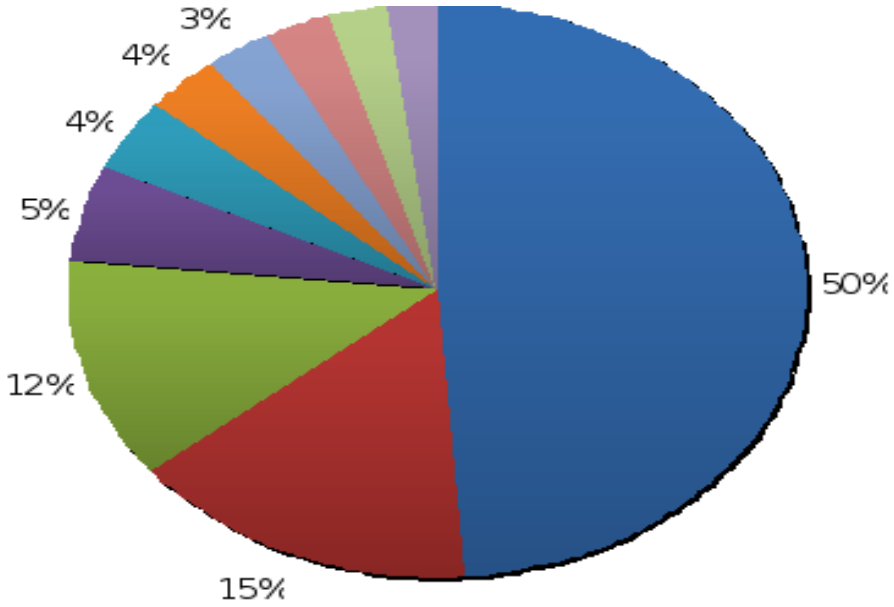
OFDA Response Options

1. Funding: $ 50,000
2. Funding: Grants
3. Emergency Relief Commodities
4. Personnel: Regional Advisors
5. Personnel: Assessment Team
6. Personnel: Disaster Assistance Response Team
7. Personnel: RMT - Response Management Team (Washington DC)
8. Personnel and Resources: Request Interagency Support (DOD, FEMA, HHS, etc)

All of the Above

OFDA's Largest 10 Disasters in FY10 (by $ amount, rounded)

- **Haiti earthquake -- $367.6m**
- **Pakistan floods -- $115m**
- **Sudan CE -- $92.9m**
- **Iraq CE -- $41m**
- **Afghanistan CE -- $29.9m**
- **DRC CE -- $27m**
- **Ethiopia CE -- $23.2m**
- **Zimbabwe CE -- $20.4m**
- **Pakistan CE -- $18.6m**
- **Somalia CE -- $16.7m**



Total OFDA FY10:

SURVIVANTS

USAID

USAID
USAID

Best Practice: Sending the Right Stuff

- Pull system for incoming commodities, not push
- "Needs based"
- No potentially harmful goods
- OFDA vets incoming USG commodities
- *Consignee* identified in advance

Frustrated Goods

Appropriate Goods?

Dangerous Goods!

Bottled Water?
-OR-
Water Treatment Unit?

OFDA Water Bladder and Tap Stands

Inappropriate Donations

OFDA-Validated Cargo

Best Practice: *Understanding DOD's Mission*

- Use the **Unique** Capabilities of DOD
- Keep DOD Support at the **appropriate level**
- **Wholesale vs. Retail Assistance**
- **Capacity ≠ Requirement**

Wholesale vs. Retail

- Large capacity aircraft
- Airfield/port management
- Off-loading/transloading
- Moving supplies and people
- Helicopter/air support
- Engineering assets
- Security

- Food/commodity distribution
- Camp management
- Health, water, & sanitation programs
- Processing/screening/tracing of displaced persons
- Vaccinations

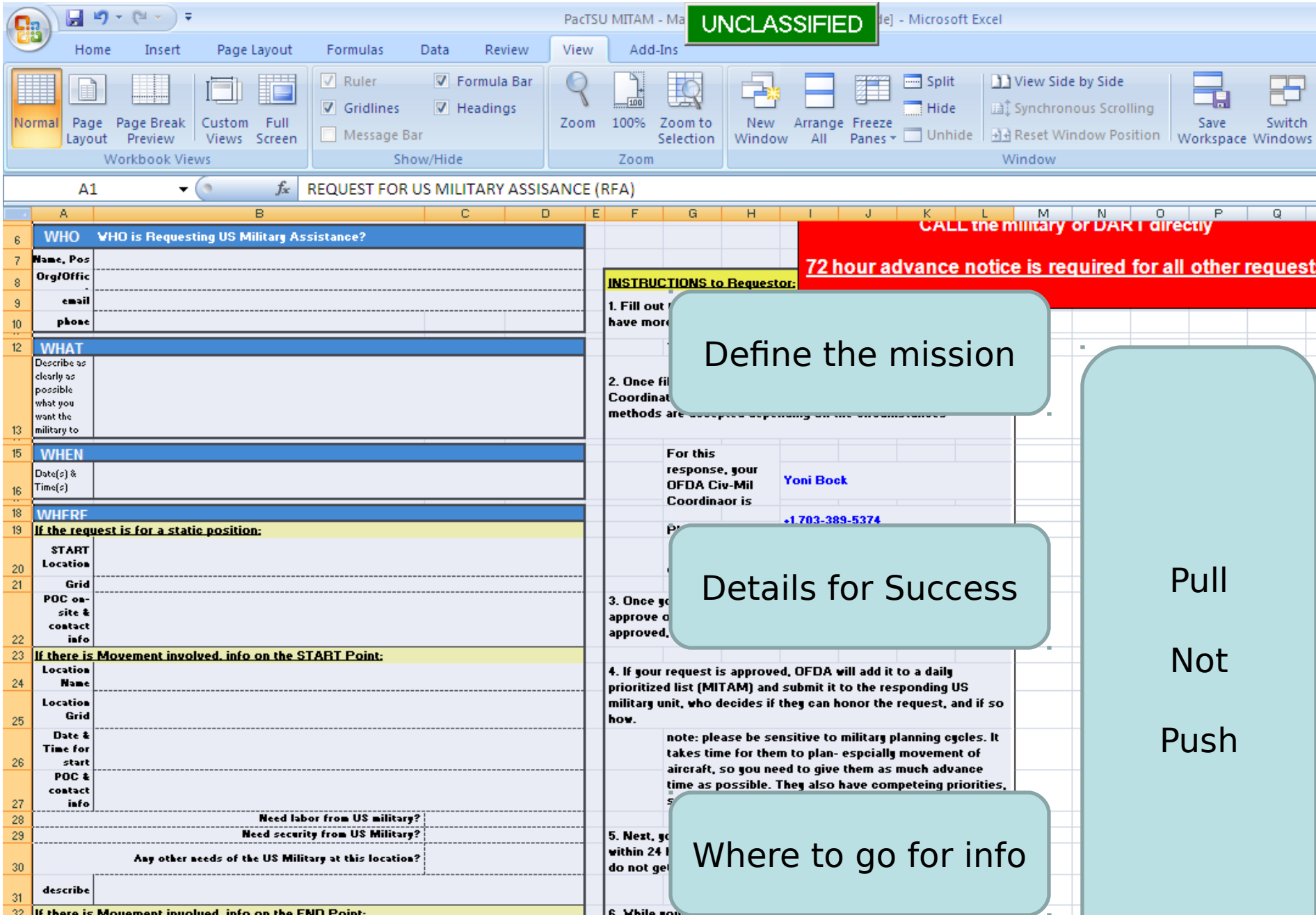
Best Practice:
Validating the DOD Mission

- **OFDA generates or receives request for DOD support from humanitarian partner consignees (NGO, U.N. cluster, etc.)**

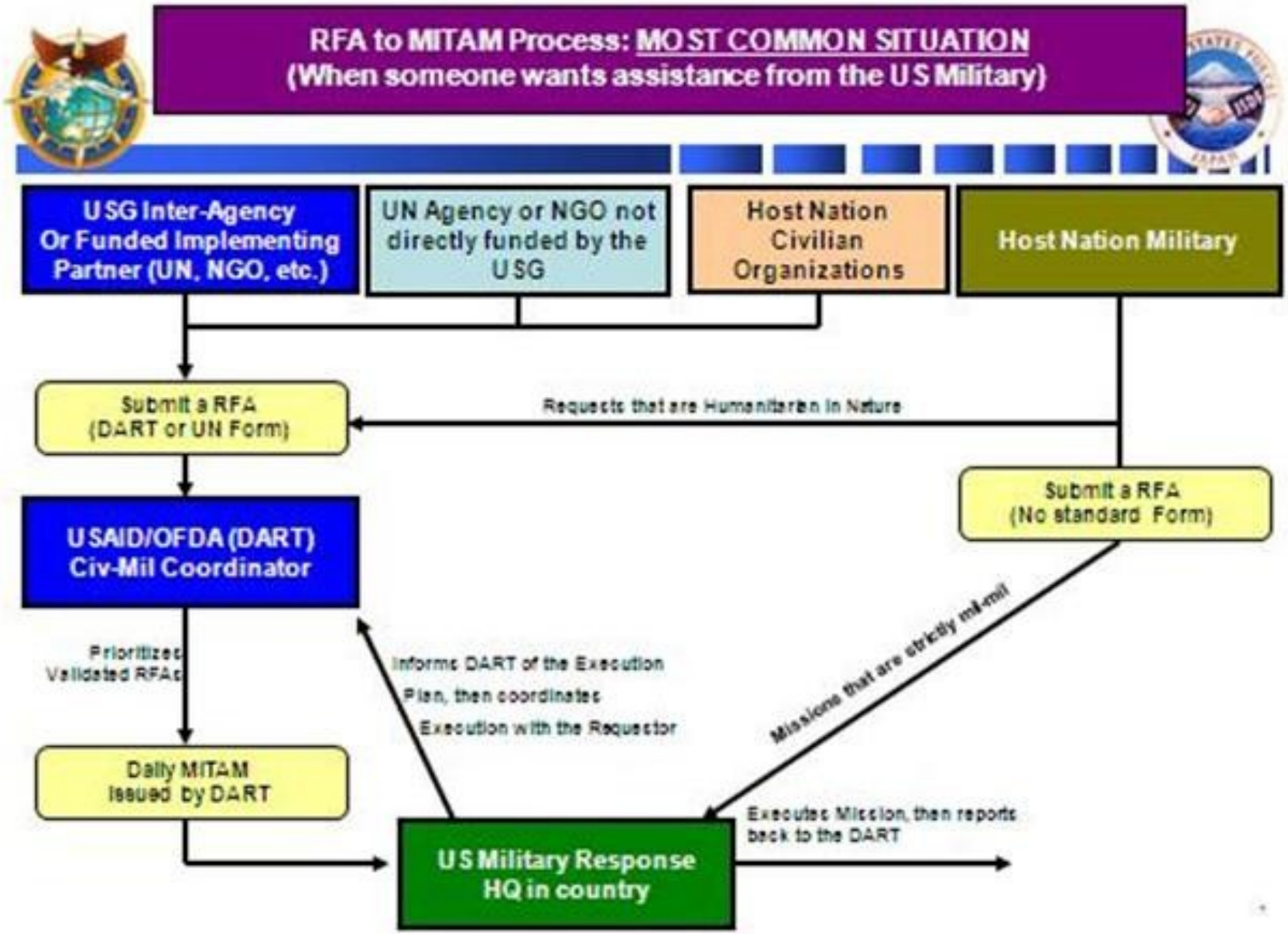
- **OFDA, with US Government Country Team, validates and prioritizes requests**

- **Validated requests forwarded to DOD for review and execution via the Mission Tasking**

RFA


UNCLASSIFIED
PacTSU MITAM - Ma
Microsoft Excel
Home
Insert
Page Layout
Formulas
Data
Review
View
Add-Ins
Normal
Page Layout
Page Break Preview
Custom Views
Full Screen
Workbook Views
Ruler
Gridlines
Message Bar
Formula Bar
Headings
Show/Hide
Zoom
100%
Zoom to Selection
Zoom
New Window
Arrange All
Freeze Panes
Split
Hide
Unhide
View Side by Side
Synchronous Scrolling
Reset Window Position
Window
Save Workspace
Switch Windows
A1
REQUEST FOR US MILITARY ASSISANCE (RFA)
WHO
WHO is Requesting US Military Assistance?
Name, Pos
Org/Offic
email
phone
WHAT
Describe as clearly as possible what you want the military to
WHEN
Date(s) & Time(s)
WHERE
If the request is for a static position:
START Location
Grid
POC on-site & contact info
If there is Movement involved, info on the START Point:
Location Name
Location Grid
Date & Time for start
POC & contact info
Need labor from US military?
Need security from US Military?
Any other needs of the US Military at this location?
describe
If there is Movement involved, info on the END Point:
CALL the military or DART directly
72 hour advance notice is required for all other request
INSTRUCTIONS to Requestor:
1. Fill out
have mor
2. Once fil
Coordinat
methods are
For this response, your OFDA Civ-Mil Coordinaor is
Yoni Bock
+1 703-389-5374
3. Once g
approve o
approved,
4. If your request is approved, OFDA will add it to a daily prioritized list (MITAM) and submit it to the responding US military unit, who decides if they can honor the request, and if so how.
note: please be sensitive to military planning cycles. It takes time for them to plan- espcially movement of aircraft, so you need to give them as much advance time as possible. They also have competeing priorities,
5. Next, g
within 24
do not ge
6. While
Define the mission
Details for Success
Where to go for info
Pull
Not
Push

Mission Tasking Matrix (MITAM)


RFA to MITAM Process: MOST COMMON SITUATION
(When someone wants assistance from the US Military)
USG Inter-Agency Or Funded Implementing Partner (UN, NGO, etc.)
UN Agency or NGO not directly funded by the USG
Host Nation Civilian Organizations
Host Nation Military
Submit a RFA (DART or UN Form)
Requests that are Humanitarian in Nature
Submit a RFA (No standard Form)
USAID/OFDA (DART) Civ-Mil Coordinator
Prioritizes Validated RFAs
Informs DART of the Execution Plan, then coordinates Execution with the Requestor
Missions that are strictly mil-mil
Daily MITAM Issued by DART
Executes Mission, then reports back to the DART
US Military Response HQ in country

Mission Tasking Matrix (MITAM)

PacTSU MITAM - March 17 2011 [Compatibility Mode] - Microsoft Excel

UNCLASSIFIED

USAID/OFDA DoD Mission Tasking Matrix (MiTaM)

RESPONSE: JAPAN EARTHQUAKE and TSUNAMI

New Missions identified as of 17-Mar-11 at 1300

Version: A

Changes from last update

Not confirmed / missing info

OFDA DART Civ-Mil Coordinator(s)

Yoni Bock (+1) 703-389-5374,ybock@usaid.gov

Location: USF-J CAT (Yokota AB, Japan)

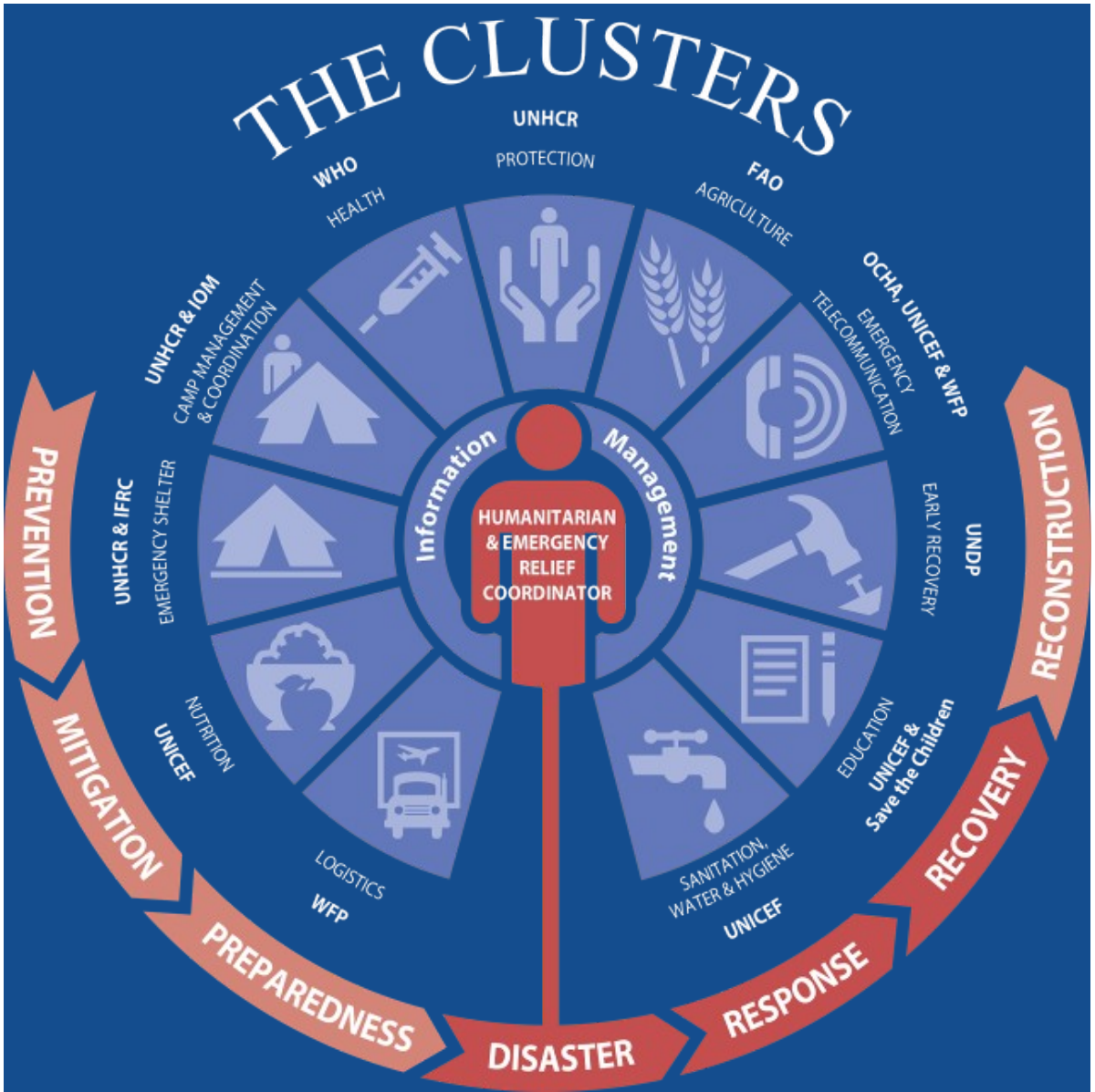
USAID/OF

RESPONSE: JAF

Mission #	JEQ - 012	JEQ - 008 (resubmitted)		
Priority	Priority	Priority		
WHO	**WHO is Requesting US Military Assistance?**	**WHO is Requesting US Military Assistance?**	**WHO is Requesting US Military Assistance?**	**WHO** WH
Name, Pos	Courtney Brown, DART Deputy Team Lead	Maj Suzuki Keita Logistics Coordination Section		
Org/Office	USAID/DART	Japan MOD Air Staff Office A4		
email	cobrown@usaid.gov	asld1103@aso.mod.go.jp		
phone	1 571 276 3242	DSN:224-3437		
WHAT				
Describe as clearly as possible what you want the military to do	Provide additional aerial assessment of affected area. Please be prepared to be on the ground in affected area for up to 1 hour so as to allow DART and UN passengers to gather more detailed assessment information	Kerosene 15KL Gasoline 6KL		
WHEN				
Date(s) & Time(s)	March 18 (if possible)	by 1000 21-Mar-11		
WHERE				
If the request is for a static position:				
START Location	Closest LZ to Tokyo. (Likely Yokota or Zama or NAF Atsugi)	Misawa AB		
Grid		E141 21 23 N40 41 46		
POC on-site & contact info	DIRLAUTH with Courtney Brown (details above).	3rd Air Wing, Logistics Dep. Capt. Matsumura		
If there is Movement involved, info on the START Point:				
Location Name	See Start location above			
Location Grid				
Date & Time for start	TBD in coordination with Courtney			
POC & contact info	See above			
Need labor from US military?	NA	Yes		
Need security from US Military?	NA	No		
Any other needs of the US Military at this	NA	Loading of		Any oth

The Humanitarian System: Clusters

- **Increased humanitarian coordination**
- **Sector-specific assessments, information, and programs**
- **Better support to Host Nation response efforts**
- **Online tools and resources**



Communicating

- **Start talking…**
  - **Before disaster occurs**
  - **Immediately following**
  - **At all levels**
  - **USAID/OFDA – OSD – COCOM – State Dept**
  - **Decide who does what, who pays, and if DOD support is needed**
  - **Link key leaders, especially in field**
  - **Sitreps, planords, EXORDS, cables**
  - **Joint current planning and joint transition planning**
  - ***UNCLASSIFIED* is best**
  - **Information vs. intel sharing is a vital NGO issue**

OFDA's Civil Military Advisor

- ***Role of OFDA CMA*:**
  - Provide input to military planning --- all phases, all levels
  - Recommend appropriate uses of military assets
  - Screen, validate, and prioritize requests for military support coming from UN/NGOs/IOs
  - Act as intermediary between the military and the UN/NGOs/IOs

Understanding Local Capabilities

- System may not be what you are used t
- Don’t make assumptions

Reality of Local System

Reality of Local System

Transition and Phase-Out…

- ***Potential Considerations* during final phase planning:**
  - Unique capabilities provided by military are no longer required or have been replaced by civilian capacity
  - Redeployment is based on input from U.S. Embassy, DART team, military, etc.
  - All affected areas will be in recovery stage
  - Civilian capacity fully established programs
  - Critical reconstruction projects have been started
  - All measures of effectiveness will have been met (food, water, shelter, and health needs)

Final Phase Realities

- Affected countries may say it is time for foreign militaries to leave
- The ambassador or DOD says it is time to leave
- The phone stops ringing
- Your phased drawdown plan may or may not have any connection with reality on the ground
- It is always best to leave:
  - Before you are asked
  - While you are still liked

Key Civ-Mil Issues from Humanitarian Partners

- **Know Priority Needs: Ask what others are providing because the USG cannot and should not provide everything.**
- **Do No Harm: Inappropriate assistance can create negative impact on affected populations and providers of aid.**
- **Context Matters: The humanitarian community was there before and will be there after.**
- **Humanitarian Coordination and Portals exist: In most disaster responses, existing NGO and UN agencies provide overarching coordination for international assistance in support of the host nation.**
- **Do Not Duplicate: The humanitarian community is a professional discipline with best practices, assessments, and coordination systems in place.**
- **Do Not Compare Living Conditions to U.S. Standards: Assistance is Provided for Relief from Disasters.**
- **Focus on Institutional Support: Provide assistance to humanitarian institutions and systems, not individuals.**